

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 15, 22 to 73 and 77 to 91 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend the claims and add new Claims 92 to 97 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. to 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) An image processing system built by connecting a host device which reads out and executes program data stored in a storage medium, and a device added with a card device function, wherein said device connected to said system comprises:

~~a communication control means for controlling a unit adapted to control~~
communication between said host device and said device;

~~a card interface for connecting to connect~~ a card device;

~~a card control means for controlling a unit adapted to control the~~ card device
which is detachably connectable to said card interface;

~~a communication means for sharing unit adapted to share~~ device
information between said host device and said card device via said card control means ~~unit~~
and said communication control means ~~unit~~; and

~~a control means for allowing unit adapted to allow~~ another device connected
via said card device to use information shared by said communication ~~means unit~~, and

~~wherein~~ when said device is in a power saving mode upon receiving a
processing request from the other device connected via said card device, said control

means unit starts a printer initial operation, and said control means unit sends the request information to said host device, and

wherein when a request other than ~~the~~ a print request is received, said control means unit does not start the printer initial mode operation even when said device is in the power saving mode, and said communication means unit sends the request information to said host device.

17. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 16, wherein said card control means unit has an output control ~~means for determining unit adapted to determine~~ processing performance of said device on the basis of the information shared by said communication means unit, when said output control means unit determines that said device can process by itself, a processing request is output to only said device, and when said output control means unit determines that said device cannot process by itself, a processing request is issued to said host device and said device.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 16, wherein said device includes a printer device.

19. (Currently Amended) An image data processing method for processing data by exchanging information between a host device which reads out and executes program data stored in a storage medium, and a device added with a card device function, comprising:

~~the~~ a communication control step of controlling a communication between said host device and said device;

the a step of executing a connection process to a card device via a card interface;

the a card control step of controlling a card device which is detachably connectable to said card interface;

the a communication step of sharing device information between said host device and said card device via processes of the card control step and the communication control step; and

the a control step of allowing another device connected via said card device to use information shared by a process of the communication step, and

in that wherein in the communication step, when said device is in a power saving mode upon receiving a processing request from the other device connected via said card device, a printer initial operation is started in the control step, and the request information is sent to said host device, and

wherein in the communication step, when a request other than the a print request is received, the printer initial mode operation is not started in the control step even when said device is in the power saving mode, and the request information is sent to said host device.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein the card control step includes the an output control step of determining processing performance of said device on the basis of the information shared by the process of the communication step, when it is determined in the output control step that said device can process by itself, a processing request is output to only said device, and when it is determined in the output

control step that said device cannot process by itself, a processing request is issued to said host device and said device.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium which stores a computer readable program module for making a computer implement an image data processing method for processing data by exchanging information between a host device which reads out and executes program data stored in a storage medium, and a device added with a card device function, said program module comprising:

a communication control module step for controlling a communication between said host device and said device;

a connection process module step for executing a connection process to a card device via a card interface;

a card control module step for controlling a card device which is detachably connectable to said card interface;

a communication module step for sharing device information between said host device and said card device via processes of said card control module step and said communication control module step; and

a control module step for allowing another device connected via said card device to use information shared by a process of said communication module step, and

~~in that wherein~~ when said device is in a power saving mode upon receiving a processing request from the other device connected via said card device, said control module step starts a printer initial operation, and said control module step sends the request information to said host device, and when a request other than ~~the~~ a print request is received, said control module step does not start the printer initial mode operation even

when said device is in the power saving mode, and said communication module sends the request information to said host device.

22. to 73. (Canceled)

74. (Original) The system according to claim 16, wherein said storage medium is a read-only storage medium.

75. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein said storage medium is a read-only storage medium.

76. (Original) The medium according to claim 21, wherein said storage medium is a read-only storage medium.

77. to 91. (Canceled)

92. (New) A printer comprising:

a first determination unit adapted to determine whether received information is information for a print function;

a second determination unit adapted to, when said first determination unit determines that the received information is the information for the print function, determine whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination unit adapted to, when said second determination unit determines that the printer is not in the sleep state, determine whether the printer can print

singly without starting an initial operation, and when said second determination unit determines that the printer is in the sleep state, start the initial operation and determine whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing unit adapted to, when said third determination unit determines that the printer can print singly, execute printing in accordance with the received information, when said third determination unit determines that the printer cannot print singly, transmit the received information to a host device, and when said first determination unit determines that the received information is not the information for the print function, transmit the received information to the host device.

93. (New) A printer comprising:

a first determination unit adapted to determine whether information received from a card device is information for a print function;

a second determination unit adapted to, when said first determination unit determines that the information received from the card device is the information for the print function, determining whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination unit adapted to, when said second determination unit determines that the printer is not in the sleep state, determine whether the printer can print singly without starting an initial operation, and when said second determination unit determines that the printer is in the sleep state, starting the initial operation and determining whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing unit adapted to, when said third determination unit determines that the printer can print singly, executing printing in accordance with the information received from the card device, when said third determination unit determines that the

printer cannot print singly, transmitting the information received from the card device to a host device, and when said first determination unit determines that the information received from the card device is not the information for the print function, transmitting the information received from the card device to the host device.

94. (New) A printer control method comprising:

a first determination step of determining whether received information is information for a print function;

a second determination step of, when it is determined in the first determination step that the received information is the information for the print function, determining whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination step of, when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is not in the sleep state, determining whether the printer can print singly without starting an initial operation, and when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is in the sleep state, starting the initial operation and determining whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing step of, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer can print singly, executing printing in accordance with the received information, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer cannot print singly, transmitting the received information to a host device, and when it is determined in the first determination step that the received information is not the information for the print function, transmitting the received information to the host device.

95. (New) A printer control method comprising:

a first determination step of determining whether information received from a card device is information for a print function;

a second determination step of, when it is determined in the first determination step that the information received from the card device is the information for the print function, determining whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination step of, when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is not in the sleep state, determining whether the printer can print singly without starting an initial operation, and when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is in the sleep state, starting the initial operation and determining whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing step of, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer can print singly, executing printing in accordance with the information received from the card device, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer cannot print singly, transmitting the information received from the card device to a host device, and when it is determined in the first determination step that the information received from the card device is not the information for the print function, transmitting the information received from the card device to the host device.

96. (New) A computer readable program stored on a computer readable medium for making a computer implement a printer control method, the program comprising:

a first determination step for determining whether received information is information for a print function;

a second determination step for, when it is determined in the first determination step that the received information is the information for the print function, determining whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination step for, when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is not in the sleep state, determining whether the printer can print singly without starting an initial operation, and when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is in the sleep state, starting the initial operation and determining whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing step for, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer can print singly, executing printing in accordance with the received information, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer cannot print singly, transmitting the received information to a host device, and when it is determined in the first determination step that the received information is not the information for the print function, transmitting the received information to the host device.

97. (New) A computer readable program stored on a computer readable medium for making a computer implement a printer control method, the program comprising:

a first determination step for determining whether information received from a card device is information for a print function;

a second determination step for, when it is determined in the first determination step that the information received from the card device is the information for the print function, determining whether the printer is in a sleep state;

a third determination step for, when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is not in the sleep state, determining whether the printer can print singly without starting an initial operation, and when it is determined in the second determination step that the printer is in the sleep state, starting the initial operation and determining whether the printer can print singly; and

a processing step for, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer can print singly, executing printing in accordance with the information received from the card device, when it is determined in the third determination step that the printer cannot print singly, transmitting the information received from the card device to a host device, and when it is determined in the first determination step that the information received from the card device is not the information for the print function, transmitting the information received from the card device to the host device.